

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date:

Date: January 4, 2005 Name: Joseph F. Hetz

Signature:

BRINKS
HOFFER
GILSON
& LIONE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. of: Dhindsa

Appln. No.: 10/731,327

Filed: December 8, 2003

Art Unit: 3739

For: Endoscope Valve Assembly and Method

Attorney Docket No: 10672-28

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

Attached is/are:

- ☒ Transmittal Letter (1 page in duplicate); First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages); Form PTO 1449 (1 page)
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard

Fee calculation:

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ Small Entity.
- ☐ An extension fee in an amount of \$_____ for a _____-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).
- ☐ A petition or processing fee in an amount of \$_____ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(_____).
- ☐ An additional filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

					Small Entity			Not a Small Entity	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Add'l Fee	or	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total		Minus			x \$25=			x \$50=	
Indep.		Minus			x 100=			x \$200=	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim					+\$180=			+\$360=	
					Total	\$		Total	\$

Fee payment:

- ☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 in the amount of \$_____. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.
- ☐ Payment by credit card in the amount of \$_____ (Form PTO-2038 is attached).
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this paper (including any extension fee required to ensure that this paper is timely filed), or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

Joseph F. Hetz (Reg. No. 41,070)



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Date of Deposit

Joseph F. Hetz - Reg. No. 41,070

Name of Applicant, Assignee or
Registered Representative

[Signature]
Signature

Patent
Our Case No. 10672-28

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
Dhindsa)	
Serial No.: 10/731,327)	Group Art Unit: 3739
Filed: December 8, 2003)	
For: Endoscope Valve)	
Assembly and Method)	

FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

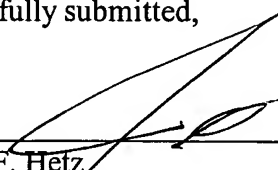
Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the obligation under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§
1.97-1.99, Applicant hereby submits documents A1-A10 listed on the attached form PTO-1449
for consideration by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner review the
entire disclosure of these documents and make them of record.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). Further, Applicant reserves the right to contest that any of the information submitted herewith is prior art against the present application.

Dated: January 4, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph F. Hetz
Reg. No. 41,070
Attorney for Applicant

BRINKS HOFER
GILSON & LIONE
P.O. Box 10395
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FORM PTO-1449	SERIAL NO. 10/731,327	CASE NO. 10672-28
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	FILING DATE December 8, 2003	GROUP ART UNIT 3739
(use several sheets if necessary)	APPLICANT(S): Dhindsa	

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A1	4,325,362	04/1982	Ouchi et al.		
	A2	5,027,791	07/1991	Takahashi		
	A3	6,558,317 B2	05/2003	Takahashi et al.		
	A4	5,840,015	11/1998	Ogino		
	A5	5,938,589	08/1999	Wako et al.		
	A6	6,309,347 B1	11/2001	Takahashi et al.		
	A7	6,346,075 B1	02/2002	Arai et al.		
	A8	6,383,132 B1	05/2002	Wimmer		
	A9	6,387,045 B1	05/2002	Takahashi		
	A10	6,425,535 B1	07/2002	Akiba		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER <small>Number-Kind Code (if known)</small>	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES OR NO
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OTHER ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	(Include name of author, title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.
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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.